

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-08

COME-00 FEA-01 INT-05 AID-05 /117 W

-----080650Z 067668 /13

R 080424Z MAR 77

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4006

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 2586

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ECON, EAID, PFOR, KN, UR, CH

SUBJECT: NORTH KOREAN-SOVIET RELATIONS: AID REQUESTS

REF: MOSCOW 1779

1. INDIAN COMMISSION OFFICER IN HONG KONG HAS PASSED
US SOVIET-SOURCED INFORMATION REGARDING THE JANUARY 1977
VISIT TO MOSCOW OF NORTH KOREAN PREMIER PAK SONG CHOL.
ACCORDING TO INDIAN COMMISSION OFFICER NORTH KOREANS
MADE SPECIFIC REQUEST FOR : (A) SOVIET COKING COAL
(PRESUMABLY TO REPLACE SHORTFALLS IN PRC COKING COAL
ARISING FROM THE TANGSHAN EARTHQUAKE); (B) RESCHEDULNG
OF 100 MILLION RUBLES IN NORTH KOREAN OVERDUE DEBTS TO
THE SOVIETS; (C) A NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, AND (D) ADDITIONAL
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IL-62 PASSENGER PLANES. THE SOVIETS WERE FORTHCOMING
ON THE FIRST TWO REQUESTS FOR COKING COAL AND DEBT
RESCHEDULING, BUT TURNED THE NORTH KOREANS DOWN ON THE
NUCLEAR PLANT AND THE IL-62'S. IN ADDITION NORTH KOREA
"SOUNDED OUT" SOVIETS ON OBTAINING MILITARY EQUIPMENT.
SOVIETS RESPONDED IN NONCOMMITTAL FASHION, REQUESTING
A LIST OF DESIRED EQUIPMENT WHICH THEY WOULD STUDY.

2. COMMENT: INDIAN COMMISSION OFFICERS WITHIN PAST FEW WEEKS
HAVE BEEN UNUSUALLY FORTHCOMING IN PASSING US UNSOLICITED
INFORMATION AND VIEWS-PRIMARILY ON THE PRC-SOURCED
TO THE SOVIETS. THE ABOVE INFORMATION SUPPLEMENTS AND TO
SOME DEGREE VARIES WITH INFORMATION GAINED FROM JAPANESE
CONTINUED IN REFTEL. WE ASSUME IT ACCURATELY CONVEYS
WHAT THE INDIANS HAVE BEEN TOLD BY THE SOVIETS.
CROSS

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Message Attributes

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